

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE AND CONSTABLES.

The Act of 1862, ch. 74, adds the following sections to this article :

SEC. 1. The justices of the peace for Somerset county shall have jurisdiction over, and may take cognizance of, all actions of assault and battery, where the damages claimed do not exceed the sum of one hundred dollars, and also criminal jurisdiction in all cases of assault and battery committed in said county, unless it shall appear to the said justices of the peace, upon the hearing of the case, that the said assault and battery was committed with intent to kill.

2. In all cases hereafter tried under this act before justices of the peace for said county, either party shall be allowed an appeal to the Circuit Court of Somerset county, where they shall be tried *de novo*, and all such appeals shall be taken in such manner as is now provided for by law in other cases of appeals from judgments of justices of the peace.

The Act of June 10, 1861, ch. 28, amends section 55 by adding the following:

3. In addition to the constables heretofore authorized by law, in the election district in Somerset county, wherein the town of Princess Anne is situated, there shall be one additional constable appointed by the commissioners of the county, who shall hold his office until the next regular election in this State; and an additional constable shall then and thereafter be elected as other constables are elected.

4. Said additional constable shall be a resident of the town of Princess Anne, and it shall be his special duty, in addition to the ordinary duties of a constable, to enforce the laws relating to free negroes and slaves within the limits of said town.

5. Said constable shall be paid by the county aforesaid, at the discretion of the commissioners of said county, an annual compensation at a rate not exceeding two hundred dollars, to be levied upon the taxable property in said town of Princess Anne.